

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. When strikethrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 9, and 25, and CANCEL claim 23 without prejudice or disclaimer in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A method of providing antibacterial activity to a surface of a filter body in an air cleaner or a home appliance body using nano-sized metal particles, comprising:
coating a volatile solution dispersed with nano-sized metal particles, in an absence of sulfur compounds, onto the surface of the filter body in the air cleaner or home appliance body;
drying the coated filter body in the air cleaner or home appliance body; and
thermally treating the coated filter body in the air cleaner or home appliance body
wherein the nano-sized metal particles are deposited onto the filter body or home appliance body,
wherein the thermal treatment operation is performed at 50-150°C to prevent deformation of the filter body in the air cleaner or home appliance body,
wherein the metal particles are selected from the group consisting of silver (Ag), aluminum (Al), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), zinc (Zn), cadmium (Cd), palladium (Pd), rhodium (Rh) and chrome (Cr).

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the thermal treatment operation is performed at 150°C to prevent deformation of the body.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the nano-sized metal particles used in the coating operation are used in an amount of 100-2000 ppm, based on the volatile solution.

6. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the nano-sized metal particles

used in the coating operation are used in the amount of 1000 ppm, based on the volatile solution.

7. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the nano-sized metal particles have a sterilizing function.

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A method of providing antibacterial activity to a surface of a home appliance body using nano-sized metal particles, comprising:

coating a volatile solution dispersed with nano-sized metal particles, in an absence of sulfur compounds, onto the surface of the home appliance body;

drying the coated home appliance body; and

thermally treating the coated home appliance body wherein the nano-sized metal particles are deposited onto the home appliance body,

wherein the thermal treatment operation is performed at 50-150°C to prevent deformation of the home appliance body,

wherein the metal particles are selected from the group consisting of silver (Ag), aluminum (Al), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), zinc (Zn), cadmium (Cd), palladium (Pd), rhodium (Rh) and chrome (Cr),

wherein the nano-sized metal particles used in the coating operation are used in an amount of 100-2000 ppm, based on the volatile solution,

wherein the nano-sized metal particles have a sterilizing function, and

wherein the body is a home appliance selected from the group consisting of refrigerators, washing machines and air conditioners.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the nano-sized metal particles have an average particle size of 500 nm or smaller.

20. (original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the nano-sized metal particles have an average particle size of 300 nm or smaller.

21. (original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the nano-sized metal particles have an average particle size of 3-250 nm.

22. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the coating of the volatile solution with nano-sized metal particles onto the surface of the body comprises deposition.

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (previously presented) A method of providing antibacterial activity to a surface of a copper or stainless steel filter using nano-sized metal particles, comprising:

coating, onto the surface of the copper or stainless steel filter, a volatile solution dispersed with nano-sized metal particles selected from the group consisting of silver (Ag), aluminum (Al), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), zinc (Zn), cadmium (Cd), palladium (Pd), rhodium (Rh) and chrome (Cr), in an absence of sulfur compounds; and

heating the filter at 50-150°C to obtain a deposit of nano-sized metal particles on the copper or stainless steel filter to provide non-aerosol antibacterial activity.